



Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Whimsical Mixed Media Jewelry Created by Theresa Kibby at Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

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BEREA, Ky. – On Saturday, March 22, Theresa Kibby, of Somerset, will mix metals and other media to create whimsical “critter” jewelry from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea.

Born in Las Vegas, Kibby spent most of her school years in the Cincinnati area. Involved with music most of her life, she has a degree in musical performance (saxophone and voice) from Indiana State University.

After college, Kibby helped her mother set up and run a gallery of fine craft in Somerset, where she met local artist-jeweler Jamison Brumm. Kibby began working part-time for Brumm doing piecework, and eventually became an official full-time apprentice. After learning all the aspects of jewelry production, she then began participating in craft shows with Brumm, to learn the marketing and business side of the profession. After two full years, Brumm encouraged Kibby to go out on her own. Kibby celebrated her first full year as a jeweler in the fall of 2004.

Kibby has always drawn animals, and her renderings are childlike and abstract. When she began to build upon the geometric qualities of her drawings, her images were easy to translate into jewelry. She began to add beads and found objects to the cut-out metal “critters” for embellishment and fun. Her own pets, a yellow-collared dwarf macaw parrot and her dog, often become the subjects of her jewelry.

Works by Kibby are regularly available at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, located at 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea Exit 77. The center’s exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the cafe is open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea currently features works by more than 700 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. Special exhibits on display include, “Repurposed and Recycled: Works Kentucky Artisans,” through Sept. 6 and on display in the lobby, “Kentucky Bourbon: Distillation and Inspiration.” For more information about events call 859-985-5448, go to the center’s website at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Photos left to right: Kibby assembles parts to her whimsical jewelry; a table-top press cuts the metal parts out; completed “Puppy” pins